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HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1924.

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SINGAPORE IN THE BALANCE.

FUTURE OF THE BASE.
LABOUR GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE.
LOOKING INTO THE FACTS.
JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE EFFECTS.
(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, February 13.
In the House of Commons supplementary questions poured in from all sides in connection with the reply of Mr. C. G. Ammon, Parliamentary secretary of the Admiralty, as regards the future of the Singapore scheme.

Mr. Ammon stressed that the present Government had always contended that adequate reason had not been shown for the very large proposed expenditure, but thought it only right to examine the case for the scheme before announcing a decision. This was being done. In the meantime fresh commitments were not being entered into. The effects of the recent terrible disaster in Japan which Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy said had put Japan out of the running for another decade were receiving attention in connection with Singapore.

Mr. Ammon added that £13,000 had been expended on the scheme to January 20 and the signed commitments totalled another £34,000. Liabilities, the extent of which at present were not available, had also been incurred on work being carried out in respect of railways, roads and water. The dominions would be consulted about the base.

LONDON, February 13.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, former Conservative Premier, resumed the debate. He trusted the Government would very carefully consider the views of the Dominions about the Singapore base.

"SWEET REASONABLENESS."
Mr. Baldwin wished the Government well in its fresh negotiations with France. The Premier, he said, believed that by sweet reasonableness he could bend Europe to our will, but sweet reasonableness might be carried to an excess without reaping the rewards due thereto. (Cheers.)
Mr. Baldwin asked whether the Government proposed to abandon the Safeguarding of Industries Act.

He expressed the opinion that the Government would find it almost impossible to carry out its Russian policy and asked what exactly was meant by the Soviet Union and with whom were we really going to make arrangements. All our continental debtors were eagerly watching events and hoping we were going to surrender our claims against Russia, upon which any hope of collecting our debts from the other European countries would disappear.

Mr. Baldwin sympathized with the loftiness of Mr. MacDonald's speech, but said he felt a short term of office would prove that the world was too hard for Mr. MacDonald's idealism.

Mr. Baldwin emphasised the terrible risk to the whole world if Bolshevik propaganda in Asia ever bore fruit, and the bloodshed and misery which would result if anarchy were called into existence among the teeming millions of the East. (Opposition cheers.)

CHALLENGE TO GOVERNMENT.

Mr. H. H. Asquith, former Liberal Premier, who followed Mr. Baldwin, referring to the rescission by Mr. J. Wheatley, the Minister of Health, of his predecessor's order which imposed surcharges on the Poplar Board of Guardians in respect of excessive out-relief, said in the plainest and most unequivocal terms that unless the Government could see its way to reconsider the Minister of Health's action there was not the slightest chance of that administrative act receiving the countenance and approval of the House of Commons. (Loud Conservative and Liberal cheers.)

Mr. Asquith approved the recognition of Russia. He wished to know the Government's attitude towards the Safeguarding of Industries Act and then made a reference to Poplar previously cabled, saying that the Liberals regarded the matter as one of capital importance.

Labour members constantly interrupted Mr. Asquith, who declared the matter did not affect Poplar alone. Mr. Wheatley's action was discouraging and paralysing to other distressed districts manfully fulfilling their duty. Conservative and Liberal cheers.)

Mr. Asquith declared that the time had come to reform the chaotic London Government and to reconsider the basis of poor law itself. (Miscellaneous cheers.)

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

Mr. J. R. Clynes, Deputy Leader of the House of Commons, promised that an opportunity would be given later to discuss Poplar and kindred subjects of the controversy. The fullest facts would be given to the House. He emphasised that the Premier did not intend to treat Russia differently from other countries in the matter of credits.

Replying to interruptions, Mr. Clynes said the internal conditions of Russia were beside the point. The Government wanted to arrange better trade relations. The documents already exchanged between Russia and ourselves amply provided the necessary security on the subject of propaganda.

Mr. Clynes doubted whether the Government could be expected to regard the Safeguarding of Industries Act as a means of relieving unemployment.

He concluded by saying it was hoped to enlist the support of the House in attempts to deal with social need. It was impossible for the Government to approach the question of capital levy without national approval.

The House devoted the evening virtually to debating tariff reform on a motion by Mr. Milne, advocating the appointment of an expert committee to enquire into the most effective method of dealing with the problem of safeguarding industries.

After characteristic arguments for and against Imperial preference etc., the motion was rejected by 20 to 103 votes and the House adjourned.

KILLED LIKE DOGS.
PALATINATE SEPARATISTS MASSACRED.
THROWN TO THE FLAMES.
FRENZIED CROWD'S MAN HUNT.
(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

BERLIN, February 13.
It has never been doubted that the Separatists' days in the Palatinate were numbered once the support hitherto accorded them was withdrawn, and the events at Pirmasens are regarded as a warning that the Separatists elsewhere will fade out of the limelight very quickly.

Accounts of yesterday's affair depict very bloodthirsty scenes. Separatists armed with rifles and grenades, to the number of forty, barricaded the building and refused the repeated demands of the attackers to come out.

AXES AND STICKS.

The crowds swelled to enormous dimensions, armed with all available weapons like axes, sticks and knives. They were unable to break down the barricades and set fire to the building with benzine.

They then forced their way into the building and engaged the Separatists hand to hand until they surrendered. Howls of execration greeted the Separatists on their exit. The maddened crowd brushed aside the guards and massacred the Separatists like dogs, including Schwab, the Government Commissioner, whose body was thrown to the flames.

HUNTED DOWN.

Thereafter followed a man hunt for Separatists in the streets of Pirmasens. Several were found and shared the fate of their comrades.

The French troops remained perfectly neutral, and it was not before five o'clock in the morning that French and Moroccan reinforcements arrived in motors and surrounded the burning building.

There was an affray between Separatists and the populace at Kaiserlautern to-day resulting in two people being killed. Separatists at Zweibrücken, hearing of the events at Pirmasens, hastily quitted the town.

[Earlier cables stated that there was heavy fighting at Pirmasens, in the Palatinate, last night between the inhabitants and the Separatists, for the possession of a Government building which the Separatists had barricaded.]

MARTIAL LAW.

DUSSELDORF, February 13.

The Inter-Allied High Commission has unanimously decided to proclaim martial law in the Pirmasens district and to dissolve certain Nationalist societies and associations.

Pirmasens is a town with 21,000 inhabitants. Chief industries are tanning and boot manufacturing. Kaiserlautern has a population of 37,000, with manufactures of cotton, woollen, yarn, etc. The city is named in honour of the Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, who built a palace there in 1152. Zweibrücken, population 11,000, has belonged to the Rhine Palatinate since the end of the 14th century. In 1654 it became Swedish; in 1718 it fell to a Roman Catholic collateral line; in 1801 it went to France; and in 1816 it became Bavarian. To-day it has many industries.

DOCKERS' STRIKE THREAT.

LABOUR MINISTRY'S MEDIATION.

CONFERENCE AGAIN ADJOURNS.

LONDON, February 13.

The dockers' conference again adjourned until to-morrow morning.

[Yesterday's cables stated that while the conference between the Minister of Labour and representatives of the dockers and employers adjourned late in the evening without reaching a definite conclusion a much more hopeful spirit prevailed. It was understood the dockers would be offered an immediate increase of a shilling a day and a further shilling later.]

HONDURAS TROUBLE.

AMERICA WITHDRAWS RECOGNITION.

WASHINGTON, February 13.

The United States Government has severed diplomatic relations with Honduras.

[Recent cable reported a revolutionary movement in Honduras, a Republic in Central America with an area of 46,250 square miles and a population of 744,000. The cruiser "Rochester" proceeded to the chief port of Honduras in response to an appeal from American residents there.]

BIG LOCK-OUT.

SWEDEN FACING SERIOUS TROUBLE.

CHRISTIANIA, February 13.

The national association of employers has proclaimed a lock-out against 12,400 workmen from February 23.

The lock-out applies to breweries, electro-chemical plants, chocolate works, and printing presses except newspaper offices.

SPECIAL END OF SEASON OFFER
February 11th to 16th



"RITZ"
Felt Hats
in various shapes
and colours. All sizes.

\$9.50 each.

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Alexandra Building,
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MOVING
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Lens, two 400 feet regular Debrie
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That is because you are not using

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apply the virus occasionally. And, remember the Sole
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J. HARVEY'S BRISTOL MILK
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(old gold and Pale Sherry)

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The "MAXIMO" Towels

These useful towels have been
specially imported to fill the
long felt want of a good medium
towel at a popular price. Heavy
and absorbent.

Size 51 by 28 ins.

Standard Value Price

\$1.50 each.

The "MAXIMO" Bath Sheet

This is the same quality as our
Maximo Towel. Manchester
made from the best available
materials. Fawn and white
stripes on a self check ground.
Fringed ends.

Size 75 by 46 ins.

Standard Value Price

\$3.75 each.

WHITEAWAY,

LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.

20, Des Voeux Road,

HONGKONG.

LAMBERT BROS.

AMATEUR APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS
Public Auctioneers

THE undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1924,
commencing at 11 a.m.
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,
Sundry Private effects belonging to the estate of the late Mr. John Lloyd Mc Dowell (deceased).
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMBERT BROS.
Auctioneers.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1924,
commencing at 2.30 p.m.
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.
A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture

Comprising:—
Extension dining table, Chairs, Dressing Table, Marble Top Washstand, Double and Single Wardrobes, with Double and Single Bedsteads, Oak Double and Single Bedsteads, Table, Desk, Pictures, Candelabras, Table Lamps, Clocks, Cushions, Ornaments, Glassware, etc., etc.
Also
New Carpets, Chinese Curios, Bric-a-brac, and two Aerial Lamps.
And
A Large Quantity of Blackwood Furniture.
Comprising:—
Curio Cabinet, Tables, Armchairs, Chairs, Teapots, and Picture Frames.
Catalogues will be issued.
(a) View on Monday, the 18th February, 1924.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMBERT BROS.
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1924.

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BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES
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Duddell Street

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PUBLIC AUCTION

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MONDAY

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MESSRS. LAMBERT BROTHERS,
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At their Salesroom in Duddell Street

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The property is situate upon SECTION D OF ISLAND LOT No. 339. There is a frontage of 91 feet 2 inches on Duddell Street. The premises cover an area of 5500 square feet or thereabouts and are held for a term of 999 years from the 11th day of May 1849. The Rent payable in respect of the premises is \$800 per annum.

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Solicitors,
9 Des Voeux Road Central
or to
Messrs. LAMBERT BROTHERS,
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Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a standard family medicine. Prompt, reliable and effective for coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis, whooping cough, nervous hacking, tickling, throat troubles, and all other coughs and the chronic coughs of elderly people. For sale everywhere.

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Academy of Stage and Operatic
Dancing, London.

Miss O'Keefe gives lessons in the latest Ball Room dances, including The Blues, Old and New Tango, Exhibition Work, Ballet, Classical, Eurythmics, etc. Candidates prepared for the London Technical
Syllabus Examinations.

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ODDS AND ENDS.

MAINLY SCISSORS LOOT.

The Motor Car Industry.

Motor-car manufacturers lunching together in New York predicted that 1924 will be marked by a continued increase of production in the United States, also by keener competition in prices. Two companies here will probably turn out 4,000,000 low-priced cars—mounting, apparently, the Ford and Chevrolet.

Why People Are Healthier.

"Women are dressing in a better way than was the case in the past; they are realising the advantage of throwing open their necks to the sun. They see also that the muscles are the natural stays of the body, and that other things are detrimental to the body's health. In the evening Standard, I hope it will not be long before men follow the lead and get rid of all their unhealthy hard collars, for instance. People are becoming healthier and bringing down the death-rate because they are being educated to the advantages of sensible food, clothing, and exercise. The newspapers are telling the public what to do."

Murderer's Strange Wish.

The Paris correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that a murderer's bequest of his corpse to the cause of science resulted in a strange dispute between the scientists and the police, in which the murderer is taking the side of science. When Ferdinand Leclercq was sentenced to death he invited proposals from research workers for utilising his corpse, and finally accepted the offer of Guerdard, the inventor of a pump with which he claimed to be able to restore blood circulation to a person immediately after death. Guerdard arranged to take possession of the corpse directly the man was guillotined, so he hired a room overlooking the place of execution. The police pointed out that the statute provided that the corpse must be formally taken to the cemetery before being handed to the anatomists. Leclercq protested, but without result, that he was willing to dispense with the ceremony, and demanded that Guerdard be allowed to carry out his experiments. Guerdard is still trying to get behind the statute.

Waiters And Millionaires.

American waiters, who are a very cosmopolitan band, chiefly of German, Italian, and Greek origin, have risen in protest against the decision of a section to form a special club of those "who have served millionaires." Is it, asks the chairman of the American Waiters' Democratic Union, a reason for pride in waiters to have earned food to the table of the wealthy? More especially, as millionaires usually have weak digestions and dine more sparingly, it is declared, than the average man, who tips just as liberally. To celebrate the inauguration

of the Millionaires' Waiters' Club a dinner was held recently for which each person paid 60s., which evidently included prohibited liquors. Mr. Jan Olsen, the chairman, said it was desirable, nowadays, to have a pride in one's calling, and millionaires were not worse than other people. They frequently supplied serving men with good Stock Exchange tips, which in several cases had enabled waiters to become hotel proprietors. Other speakers told of the romance of waiting.

Oil Spots On The Ocean.

Sea-going vessels frequently report having passed through parts of the ocean where the surface of the water was covered with oil for a distance of perhaps many miles. The source of this oil is frequently a mystery (points out the Montreal Witness). In some cases it is known to have been due to oil-carrying vessels which have sunk, but in others it is believed to be due to oil wells on the bottom from which the oil rises. In some cases it has been observed bubbling out of the water, as if a steady stream of it were rising. These apparent submarine oil wells are most common in the Gulf of Mexico and off the western coast of South America.

London And Literature.

Mr. St. John Adcock has pointed out that Sir James Barrie and Mr. Bernard Shaw, the lights of the Adelphi, almost alone among contemporary distinguished writers live and work in London, says a writer in John O'London's Weekly. To them might be added Mr. George Moore, who lives at Elbury Street, and Mr. Galsworthy, who lives at Hatfield. Mr. Wells does most of his work at Great Easton; Mr. Bennett works mostly out of London; Mr. Conrad lives in Kent. Miss May Sinclair lives in London for a great part of the year, but most of her work is done at Stow-on-the-Wold; Mr. Pett Ridge lives at Chislehurst, though he comes to London almost every day. Mr. Eden Phillpotts lives at Torquay; Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith lives at Hastings; Mr. Chesterton lives at Beaconsfield; Mr. Lionel Zangwill lives in Sussex, and so on. Mr. Hardy has, of course, lived for years at Dorchester, and George Meredith lived for many years at Box Hill. London was a quieter city when it was the home and the workshop of Shakespeare, of Keats, and of Thackeray. Even Dickens, the super-Cockney, lived during the latter part of his life at Gad's Hill, near Rochester.

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Most Often Indicate Nervous Exhaustion.

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To try to overcome this condition by means of stimulants is to create one's own nervousness; what is needed is new, rich red blood which will revitalize the nerves and all the organs of the body. To supply this need there is nothing equal to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People over thirty years' world-wide reputation.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills not only purify and enrich the blood, but they rapidly make new blood which revitalizes the whole system.

For women as well as men they are equally beneficial, being a proved remedy for anæmia, indigestion, rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, skin troubles and the special ailments of the weaker sex. Medicine vendors everywhere sell them or post free, \$1.50 per bottle, \$4.50 for six bottles, from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 61 Knaprock Road, Shanghai. Begin to build up your own strength to-day with

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Rapidly under English Management. Electric Light and Fans Throughout.

Every Room with Private Bath.

Lounge Bar & Billiard Rooms. Unrivalled cuisine under the personal supervision of the Proprietor.

Terms moderate. Special terms to families on application to J. H. OXBERRY, Proprietor.

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Proprietress.

KING EDWARD HOTEL

ALL REQUISITE TRAMWAYS Pass Within 100 Yards

of the Hotel. Fine Food and Drink. Electric Light and

Fans. Billiard Room. Bathing. Hot and Cold Water

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 23rd February, 1924, at 11.00 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Year ending 31st December, 1923.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, 11th February to SATURDAY, 23rd February, 1924 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

AND NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will be held on the day and at the place aforesaid immediately upon the termination of the Ordinary Meeting for the purpose of considering and if thought fit of passing the following resolution viz—

That the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation be and they are hereby requested and authorised by and on behalf of the Shareholders of the Corporation to take the steps necessary for the introduction of an Ordinance into the Legislative Council of the Colony of Hongkong and for the enactment of the same by the Governor of Hongkong with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof to effect the amendments necessary to the Ordinance under which the Corporation is incorporated and carrying on business as to allow of the ordinary note issue of the Corporation being increased from \$20,000,000 to \$50,000,000 and to modify the existing requirements as regards the deposit of security in respect of its note issue in the following manner—

(a) So that the whole of the increase (namely \$30,000,000) of such ordinary note issue shall be secured by real or bullion or approved securities.

(b) To provide that whatever the total amount of the note issue may be at any particular time the amount of coin as distinct from bullion or approved securities to be deposited by the Corporation shall never be less than one third of the total amount of the bills in actual circulation.

By Order of the Court of Directors.
A. G. STEPHEN,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1924.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD.

THE FORTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at St. George's Building, Charter Road, Victoria, on THURSDAY, the 28th February 1924, at 11 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of receiving a statement of accounts and the report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December 1923, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from THURSDAY the 21st February 1924, until THURSDAY 28th February 1924, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1924.

HONGKONG TRAMWAYS LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the REGISTER OF MEMBERS of the HONGKONG TRAMWAYS LIMITED, will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 14th February to WEDNESDAY, 27th February 1924 both days inclusive.

W. E. ROBERTS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 7th February, 1924.

TUNG SANG

11A, Peel Street

同生上洋服莊

專制新式西裝

EXPERT FITTERS

HIGH CLASS TAILORING

SERVICE

MASSAGE HALL

MADAME ASA OTANI

Japanese Massage

25, Wellington Street, 1st Floor.

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

MEMBERS' BADGES OF ADMISSION are now ready and may be obtained by those Members who have not already received them, from Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings. Members are notified that they cannot gain admission on production of the special Badges issued last year.

C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, February 8, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

MEMBERS have the privilege of introducing two non-members to the MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE. A limited number of tickets are available and may be obtained from Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings on or before Tuesday, the 19th February.

Price \$10.00 per day or \$30.00 for the Meeting.
LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Treasurers.
Hongkong, February 9, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

TICKETS OF ADMISSION to the PUBLIC ENCLOSURE may be obtained from Messrs. KELLY & WALSH or at the Gate. Price \$3.00 per day. SOLDIERS and SAILORS in uniform \$1.00 per day. No one admitted without a Ticket to be shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate.

LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Treasurers.
Hongkong, February 8, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

PASSES for Servants will be issued on application to Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings. No Servants will be allowed inside the Enclosure of the Race Course during Race Days WITHOUT TICKETS.

These tickets are only available for Servants while in attendance on their Employers or when on duty at the various stands. Any Chinese found loitering about with Servants' Passes in their possession will forfeit them and holders thereof will be removed from the Enclosure.

C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1924.

NOTICE.

PLEASE note that I assumed MANAGERSHIP of the HONGKONG SMALL INVESTORS' SHARE AND REAL ESTATE CO., Hongkong, as from JANUARY 1st, 1924, and further note that my contract as Hongkong and South China Manager for the INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEVELOPER LTD., expired on December 31st 1923.

J. E. OLLERTON.
Hongkong, 13th February, 1924.

NOTICE.

MR. FREDERICK CHARLES HALL, having returned to the Colony, resumes charge of our Insurance Department from date.

JARDINE, MATHEWSON & CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1924.

REMINDER.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

ENTRIES close on FRIDAY, 15th February.

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WANT.

ADVERTISEMENTS
at 5 WORDS 5 INSERTIONS,
\$1. PREPAID.
Every additional word 4 Cents
for 3 insertions.

TO LET.

TO LET—New and Airy Office Rooms on Ground and First Floors, 5, Duddell Street. Can be used as Bank or Commercial Offices. Rent Moderate. Apply: Room 10, First Floor.

TO LET—Houses & Flats—European Style—Nos. 1-3, Wing On Building, Nathan Road, Kowloon—Opposite Po Hing Theatre. Rent From \$95.00 To \$115.00 Per Flat. \$5.00 Extra For Flush Water Closet. Apply to The Wing On Co., Ltd.

FOR
FRENCH TUITION
Write to
G. MOUSSEON
c/o "China Mail" office.

INTIMATIONS.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTY-FIFTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Company's Offices, St. George's Building on MONDAY, 18th March 1924, at 11 A.M. for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December 1923, and electing Directors and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 23rd February to 3rd March 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.
Agents.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1924.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO. LTD.

THE THIRTY FIFTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, St. George's Building, Charter Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY the 4th of March 1924, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1923, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from TUESDAY the 19th February 1924, until TUESDAY the 4th day of March 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1924.

THE HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHEWSON & CO., LTD., on MONDAY, February 25th, 1924, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1923.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from Thursday, February 14th, 1924 to Monday, February 25th, 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
W. S. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 5th February, 1924.

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHEWSON & CO., LTD., on MONDAY, February 25th, 1924, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1923.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from Thursday, February 14th, 1924 to Monday, February 25th, 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
W. S. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 5th February, 1924.

NOTICE.

MR. FREDERICK CHARLES HALL, having returned to the Colony, resumes charge of our Insurance Department from date.

JARDINE, MATHEWSON & CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1924.

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HONGKONG, 9th February, 1924.

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HONGKONG, 9th February, 1924.

VISITORS AT HOTELS.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

January 25.

Mr. R. T. G. Atkinson Mr. L. Kadoorie

Mr. W. S. Allen Mr. E. S. Radcliffe

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Langston Mr. N. B. Lambert

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Langston Mr. N. B. Lambert

Mr. T. J. Bagman Mr. W. A. Llan

Mr. J. W. Bailey Miss H. Lillie

Mr. R. E. Bellows Miss E. MacRae

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. M. and Mrs. J. H.

Blackburn & child Mr. and Mrs. J. H.

Mr. A. Blomer Mrs. O. M. May

Mr. A. V. Booth Mrs. M. M. May

Mr. M. J. Brooks Mrs. M. M. May

Mr. S. P. Brooks Mrs. M. M. May

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. M. and Mrs. J. H.

Blackburn & child Mr. and Mrs. J. H.

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Mr. A. V. Booth Mrs. M. M. May</

PORTS & SHERRIES

For many years we have enjoyed a reputation for Ports and Sherries second to none. We invite connoisseurs to give our "D" & "E" brands of both a trial. We do not ask them to buy blindly but to visit our extensive Wine Vaults and taste these choice wines before buying.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
ESTABLISHED 1841.

Powell Ltd.
Phone Central 4578

BABY CARRIAGES

COTS

NEW MODEL

PERAMBULATOR

FITTED WITH LOW EQUAL WHEELS
HAMMOCK SWUNG BODY.

PRICES MODERATE.

**B. B. B. PIPES IN GREAT VARIETY
AT LOW PRICES.**
CALL AND INSPECT—
HONGKONG CIGAR
STORE CO., LTD.

Zeiss
Binoculars | **Special Racing**
Make.
N. LAZARUS. Hongkong's Only European
Optician.

BIRTH.

ALARCOUN.—On February 8, 1924, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Alarcoun, a daughter.

DEATH.

ARTHUR.—On February 5, 1924, at Hangchow, Elizabeth Walker (Arthur, wife of J. Hillcoat Arthur, of the American Presbyterian Mission.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The marriage of Mr. L. G. Johnson to Miss J. M. Ross will take place at St. Joseph's Church at 3.45 p.m. on Saturday, February 16th. No invitations have been issued but all friends are cordially invited.
Reception at No. 3, Queen's Gardens.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG THURSDAY, FEB. 14, 1924.

THE SINO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

The "North China Daily News," with due qualification gives the terms of an agreement said to have been arrived at between representatives of Germany and China. The agreement is "said to have been arrived at" which is perhaps tantamount to

one or perhaps both parties desire to see brought to a successful issue, and which would lead to a better understanding between both Nations and extension of that trade which before the war, Germany enjoyed to such a great extent. The facts are that Germany has lost no time, and is losing no time, in consolidating her position in the markets of the world—and especially in China. This she has a perfect right to do in open competition with the world; but it is highly desirable that her actions in this and in other respects should, like Caesar's wife, be above suspicion. The methods of trade adopted by Germany before the war, particularly in China, were to say the least reprehensible, going beyond the limits of fair trade. Aided by the large time credits which German merchants gave their Chinese clients, with the assistance of their Banks who had behind them the might of the Government, a system was set up which did not admit of fair competition. No one desires preference for anyone in this place of opportunity. The door is seemingly wide open for all to enter. But there may be a "Tradesmen's entrance" which certain opportunists may be trying to negotiate when no one is looking. We may expect our Foreign Office through the Nation's Ambassadors, to be watchful lest advantage be taken and an agreement as indicated in some way be attempted. The call is to our British Chambers of Commerce as well as to our merchants. Competition is at its keenest. Nothing but the best will suffice, and the best must be in the field of endeavour as well as in the nature and quality of British goods.

Salaries.

Not the least interesting part of the Premier's speech called yesterday was that devoted to salaries. Ramsay MacDonald (it seems peculiar that in referring to Labour people the Minister seems to drop) is not to draw a salary as Foreign Secretary. J. R. Clynes would draw the Lord Privy Seal's usual emolument—a "cool" £5,000; whilst Haldane would forego £4,000 of his salary as Lord Chancellor and receive only £3,000. The plain man may wonder at the largeness of a Cabinet minister's salary, and perhaps fail to see how he earns it when the detailed work of his department is done by permanent officials also in receipt of stupendous salaries. The plain man perhaps does not think far enough. He often cavils at paying £5, to a doctor for a minute or so of a consultation, forgetting that behind that advice and prescription given in that minute is a whole lifetime of training and the large cost thereof. The same argument may not apply to professional politicians and we should hesitate to express a definite opinion that any such sum worth £5,000 a year. But it may be that the Cabinet Minister has to find the salary of a private secretary out of the £5,000—for the calls on any public man are necessarily large; or worse still he may have an expensive wife. When "C.B." (Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman) courageously appointed "honest" John Burns, a Labour member to the President of the Local Government Board in a Liberal Ministry, the political world gasped. John did the work well and drew his £5,000 per annum. In a remote age he had publicly declared that no man was worth more than £500 a year. When a bucolic Tory Colclough M.P. reminded him of this utterance, he was simply drawing Trade Union wages. The argument applies in the case of the members of the present Cabinet or of those drawing State pay.

Lectures.

The Helena May Institute puts the community in its debt by arranging such lectures as that given by Dr. Harston on Monday, described by the Chairman, Sir Claude Gower, as perhaps the most interesting he had ever heard. Dr. Harston combines extensive knowledge of his subject, the human eye, with a "witty wit," a combination of virtues not possessed by all lecturers. The arrival of the University's new Vice-Chancellor permits us once again to refer to the question of University Extension lectures and to express the hope that he will give the matter his earnest consideration. It seems to us a remarkable fact that in a University city we have no such lectures as a well equipped Extension Lecture Committee generally supplies. We had hopes at one time when the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering held forth on submarines, but that early hope has almost faded.

Members of the staff of the University have on occasion supplied the "pulpit" at the Helena May Institute, but something more than a scattered lecture of two is wanted. A course would, we think, have an almost universal appeal and serve as a contact between the community and those who serve the cause of education so well at the western part of the town. The University may be a "lighthouse" as Dr. Lim Boon-keng described it, but on the lecture side its light burns pretty dim.

Mr. Ramsay ELUS-FOURS
MacDonald has been photographed, we understand, wearing plus fours. We can find no confirmation in the rumour that local plus-fourists are threatening to wear red ties.

Captain APPRECIATION. Robert Dollar's recent utterance on "getting together" has so far not had the desired effect, and the position may be summed up as "not getting together." One thing in that particular speech of his which should have pleased Brits, was the Captain's quotation from Kipling. That was a compliment indeed because America has her own quota of poets quite worthy of quotation. But Kipling it was and the lines illustrated Captain Dollar's point admirably. Here they are:—
"It ain't the guns or armament,
Or the funds that they can pay,
But the close co-operation,
That makes them win the day;
It ain't the individual,
Or the army as a whole,
But the everlasting team work
Of every blooming soul."

There may or may not be question of criticism regarding our local Boy Scouts Organisation, but no-one so far as we know questions the utility of the Boy Scouts Organisation as a whole for inculcating traits of obedience, manliness, courage and a measure of usefulness. The work of our own Scouts in the vaccinating campaign is widely known, and beyond our confines instances beyond mere counting can be recorded of acts of doing "good turns," heroism, and bringing an entirely new era into the lives of those touched. Here for instance is news of how Boy Scouts dissolved a system of caste in an Indian village.

At the village of Sural (Bengal) certain disciples of Rabindranath Tagore are conducting an educational experiment of some interest. The mornings are spent in the garden, the afternoons devoted to associated crafts, such as dairying, tanning, weaving, or poultry-keeping, and the evenings to literature, music, and the drama. The eyes of the pioneers are set on the problems of the village, and among the difficulties to be faced are enumerated monkeys, malaria, and mutual mistrust. The school of twenty matriolated pupils feels and feeds for itself and pays its way. The aim of the new institution is to enable its pupils to earn a livelihood and to prepare them for the fullest possible life as citizens within a rural community.

The most amazing result is that by means of the Boy Scout Movement the system of caste, that has held its imperious sway for centuries, is being broken down. Within half a mile of headquarters there are three villages with distinct types of customs and social organisation—those of the Santal aborigines, of the democratic Mohammedan, and of the Hindu, with his rigid caste system. Yet Scout troops from these three villages now study, play, and eat together!

SPELLING. Spelling has been described as a gift of God. This must be the view of a local Broker who, in mentioning his son's spelling deficiencies is reported to have said:

"I tell his teachers not to worry about his spelling. I don't know myself whether there is one or two 's' in 'profit'—but I make it all the same."

J. Swenson who owns a forty-family apartment house in Jersey City who offers bonuses for every baby born in the house. We further read that twenty bawling babies have taken Mr. Swenson at his word during last year. Mr. Swenson has always stipulated that no family without children should become tenants. In addition this inimitable paragon has at his own expense built a "garage" for the multitudinous perambulators.

Three cheers for Mr. Swenson!

Hongkong which has A GIFT. a large Japanese community was as much interested in the wedding of the Japanese Regent as other parts of the world, and will be interested to know that the British community in Japan presented a chest of silver cutlery to the Imperial happy couple. The interest will be the more when it is known that the gift was made through the British Ambassador, Sir Charles Eliot, who it will be remembered was the University's first Vice-Chancellor. Sir Charles has an international reputation both as a diplomatist and a scholar. It is not safe to hazard an opinion in which direction he excels. He is credited with a knowledge of twenty-two languages, and is certainly the author of grammars of certain foreign languages not common to students of language, whilst his books of travel are not the least part of his versatility. His last book—in three volumes,—was a learned treatise on Buddhism. Like most, or some of us in Hongkong, Sir Charles was the victim of the wily robber, and early in residence at West Point had the satisfaction of losing all his decorations. Students at the University had a whole-hearted respect for the giant Vice-Chancellor—giant in stature as well as in intellect, and the experience of being "on the mat" before him was never appreciated. But here is his letter to the Vice President of the British Association of Yokohama regarding the British community's gift.

BRITISH EMBASSY, TOKYO,
January 25, 1914.

"Dear Sir—
I have the honor to inform you that I have to-day delivered in person to Count Chinda, the Comptroller of the Household of the Prince Regent, the chest containing silver cutlery which has been offered by the British community to His Imperial Highness on the occasion of his wedding.

(Singed) C. Eliot."

SCHOOLBOY howlers are invariably hilarious productions. Often they combine a sense of humour—unconscious perhaps—with a sense of observation which many adults do not possess. Read the following and at once agree—
Q. Where do we find mangoes?
A. Where woman goes.

This also so far as we know, may have a stratum of truth in it:—
Doldrums are Army rations of spirits.

SPEECHES have a fascination for us, and in the matter of manner of them, Lincoln's Gettysburg speech which we gave in our columns the other day is rightly regarded as in the forefront of oratorical efforts. It is the model. It is concise. Says what it has to say without frills and "padding" and in language that is pure and undefiled. Its brevity enhances its value and reminds us of at least two efforts in different directions which deserve a laurel wreath by reason of their simplicity and directness. The first is Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin's three word speech on a recent occasion: "Captain Spinks—Sportsman." The other is that of the unknown popular captain of a rugby team who after a match and the dinner that followed, on being called upon for a speech, floundered and could say only—"Thanks for the spread."

PREVENTION. Some as some to many to learn that the managing director of what is known as the Marshall Stillman movement, the object of which is to help men, when released from prison, to "go straight," declared in New York recently that conventional uplift methods have proved a complete failure in the prevention of crime. The only way to stop crime, he urged, is to convince criminals that they can get more happiness out of an honest life than out of a dishonest one. How small an amount of such "convincing" goes on in the average prison; is unfortunately, so well known as not even to warrant comment.

Pointed reference STOKES, was made at the annual meeting of the K.R.A. to the seeming lack of indifference manifested in the activities of the Association of under 300. That has been the fate of the K.R.A. since its inception, we believe. It is common to most organisations which deal with civic matters, for

civic pride is not universal. The membership of the K.R.A. reached a high water mark when Mr. W. J. Stokes became treasurer, for with his usual thoroughness, Mr. Stokes went about things in no uncertain fashion and his cogent and aggressive appeals have resulted in a large measure of success. In losing his services, the K.R.A. is most unfortunate; but energetic minds have other interests and these interests take time and attention especially to the man who is thorough. Amongst Mr. Stokes' activities is that of Librarian of the Engineers Institute and we think we are right in saying that it is due in large measure to his keenness that this particular library is one to be proud of.

Today's Poem.

(Twilight Musing.)

I think there is no greater thing than dusk
The steals shamefacedly around the town,
And peeps between the buildings,
Looking down
Upon a world grown dim. It doesn't frown,
Nor does it gather grandly as would morn,
Upon men's senses;—just a slender tusk
Of colour, curving silently between
The day and night; a droop of wings scarce seen.
—MILTON RAISON.

WEATHER CALENDAR.

FEBRUARY 14.

1802. The sun shines out, but it has been a hard frost in the night. There are some little snow-drops that are afraid to put their white heads quite out, and a few blossoms of hepatica that are half-starved.
—Dorothy Wordsworth.

GREATLY PLEASE.

"Sleep after toyle, port after stormie seas,
Ease after warre, death after life,
Doth greatly please."
—SPENSER.

SHADOWS BEFORE.

Coming Events Advertised
In The Mail.

ENTERTAINMENT'S.

February 14.—Coronet Theatre; "Thundering Dawn."
February 14.—Star Theatre; 5.30 p.m. "The Rajahpore" by the Kowloon Dock A.D.C.; 8.15 p.m. Douglas McLean in "One Minute."

February 14.—World Theatre; Mrs. Wallace Reid in "Human Wreckage."
February 18.—Pianoforte Recital at City Hall, 5.30 p.m.

February 23.—Royal Air Force Re-union Dinner.
March 1.—St. David's Society Dinner.

February 18.—Theatre Royal: H.K. Boxing Assn. special tournament, cancelled owing to Chadwick's illness.

February 20.—23. Hongkong Jockey Club race meeting.
March 2.—Next Tournament of the H.K. Boxing Assn.

COMPANY MEETINGS.
February 23.—Annual meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at City Hall, 11.30 p.m.

February 25.—Thirty-seventh meeting of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Ltd., at Messrs. Jardine's offices, 11 a.m.

February 28.—Annual Meeting of the H.K. Rope Manufacturing Company, at St. George's Bldg., Chater Road, 11 a.m.
March 3.—Thirty-fifth meeting of the H.K. Electric Co., at St. George's Bldg., Chater Rd., 11 a.m.

March 4.—Thirty-fifth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders of the Green Island Cement Co. Ltd., at St. George's Bldg., Chater Rd., 11 a.m.

LECTURES.
February 14.—H.K. Amateur Photographers Society: "An Explanation of the Tinted Colour Photography," illustrated by Paget colour lantern slides by Mr. Denis H. Hazell.

February 19.—At St. Andrew's Church, Hall, Kowloon, Dr. H. Gordon Thompson gives account of his journey along the borders of Tibet.

Manila, February 13.—According to unofficial advice, three hundred Constabulary, under Colonel Bowers are bombarding four hundred "Colours" who are entrenched on Buena Island. A delegation of Moro Chiefs called on Governor-General Wood and requested him to forward a resolution to Congress asking that Windanso should remain under United States sovereignty.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

T. T. exchange on London is 2/4½; on Shanghai 70.

Eight fresh cases of small-pox were notified yesterday.

Owing to the illness of A. B. Chadwick, the boxing tournament for Monday next has been cancelled.

An aged earth-coolie was accidentally knocked down by a motor-car yesterday at Wanchai Gap Road (near Stubbs Road,) and subsequently taken to hospital.

Only a few tickets remain unsold for Professor Danenberg's pupils, apostrophe recital on Monday next, and these can be obtained from the Anderson Music Store. No tickets will be sold at the doors.

There will be a cinematograph entertainment for children at the Helena May Institute, to-morrow, Friday 15 at 5.30. The machine used will be the Pathé University.

Thirteen Chinese, occupants of a Praya East flat appeared at the Magistracy this morning for an infringement of the small-pox regulations. The principal tenant was fined \$25.

Two Filipinos, alleged to have been discovered under the lifeboats of the "President Taft" from Manila were charged before Mr. J. R. Wood with stowing away and remanded for a week.

Throughout the whole of yesterday Mr. Eldon Potter K.C. continued his speech for the plaintiffs in the action brought by the Bank of East Asia against Mr. J. H. N. Mody. The further hearing has been adjourned to Friday morning.

Dr. Thompson who recently figured prominently in cables having been captured by, and escaped from, Chinese bandits, is to speak at a meeting in St. Andrew's Church Hall on Tuesday next at 6.15 p.m. Admission is free and Sir Claud Severn is to preside.

The Gicle Trotters amused a big audience last night at the Theatre and conclude their all too brief season. The Coronet Theatre Orchestra, it should be said, helped considerably by several well selected items. They had the great joy of being encored—an almost unusual occurrence where bands are concerned.

A Shanghai telegram to the Daily Bulletin says that the Conference of the British Chambers of Commerce in China and of Hongkong was opened yesterday. The Conference passed a resolution urging the Diplomatic Corps to induce the Chinese Government to give effect to the undertaking to establish municipal government on modern lines to the former enemy Concessions at Tientsin and Hankow.

To-night at 5.30 the Kowloon Dock A.D.C. present their musical comedy "The Rajah of Rajahpore." This was a big success when played "at home," and now the general public will have the chance of seeing these clever amateurs. It will be repeated on Saturday at 9.15. The film to-night is Douglas Maclean in "One Minute," one of this clever young film comedian's biggest successes to date. Maclean specialises in clean, snappy humour, and the picture is bound to be popular.

PEKING, February 13.—The first meeting of the House of Representatives after the spring festival is scheduled for Friday, according to a Peking message to the Daily Bulletin, when it is expected there will be a trial of strength between the Wu Ching-lan faction and those opposed to them on the subject of the Speaker, the former being anxious to have Wu Ching-lan return in view of the coming election of a Vice-President.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. Silva Netto, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Noronha, and Mr. F. M. Ellis are passengers on the "President Jefferson" which left yesterday for Manila.

The death is announced in London of Mr. Harry Bush, who died of pneumonia on January 13. He was well known in North China and was at one time a leading merchant at Newchwang.

Lord Latham, Lady Howard, Lady Seymour, Mr. W. J. Carroll, Mrs. Donnelly, Mr. R. J. Wilton, and the members of the Hongkong Interport Football team, were passengers on the "President Jefferson."

MAH-JONGG.

WEEKLY COMMENT.

SUGGESTION FOR PARTIES.

[By "Sik Jar Woo"]

Tournaments of varying kinds have been heard of in connection with most pastimes and sports but I think the idea of a Mah-Jongg competition is quite new. To the members of the Chung Sing society must be given the credit for this suggestion which I think will be adopted by players and must stimulate interest in the game.

Thirty-two names were drawn to make eight tables and the result was based on a knock-out system. At each table, four rounds (for a complete game) were played under ordinary rules and the two best, i.e., the two who won the highest number of points or the two winners or the solitary winner and the smallest loser, entered the second round. In other words, half the players were eliminated after each round until four were left in the final and the same method decided the winner and runner-up.

Prize was also given to the highest break, which meant the biggest score (without reckoning the double for East wind) for a "chow." If this should be less than the net winnings (in one hand) of a player who did not "chow" but deducting from his individual score the points of the one with the next highest in that game, then this was taken as the highest "break." (For example, if the biggest "chow" score in the whole competition is 128 and in one of the games East wind "chows" 12, making 24 from each of the others but South wind had 106, West 20 and North 2, then South Wind would win 176 from West, the next biggest; deducting 24 lost to East for "chowing" his winnings from the next best would be 152 and he would get the highest "break" prize. His majority over North wind did not count as West had a bigger total and was therefore the nearest opponent.)

To shorten the competition, it can be laid down that only the biggest winner goes into the next round. Again the highest "break" may be confined to "chowing" scores. The tournament referred to was spread over a good many evenings but if only a couple of hours or so are available then the players need meet each other only once and the player with the biggest winnings from all tables can be the winner although the luck of the draw may mean too big a difference; or the play at each table can be limited to one round instead of four. Clubs with a large number of players can divide them into sections or even fix handicaps.

The rules for play in a knock-out competition are just the same as for ordinary games, and the maximums are also 400 and 1,000. The ten-point basis has been more popular as it is more difficult to set up a "highest break" record. However, there is one aspect which will appeal strongly to more experienced players and that is the question of policy which, to play, must be entirely different to the usual method. An illustration will explain what I mean. If the two best pass into the next round, it is not essential that one should win in his "heat." If only one of the four wins then the smallest loser also moves up. I have noticed that very little is attempted in the way of a big score in the first round or two. As in ordinary play if one has a hopeless hand, his main duty will be to see that East wind does not "chow" (except in extraordinary circumstances) provided that the does not occupy that position himself in which case he would try to retain the "banker-ship" as long as possible. Suppose a game has reached the West round stage. A has lost 200, B has won 1,000, C has lost 100 and D 700. It would pay B to sacrifice "chowing" for the rest of the game and to hold on especially to all the super pieces and also the minor cards. He would like to finish as soon as possible and should go out of his way when he sees one of the others who is neither East wind nor is likely to have a one-suit or other big hand, to help him to "chow" even if it means breaking a hidden set of three or a good sequence. (Those who have played to any extent will agree that one of the charms of Mah-Jongg is to fathom what the others want and do not want.)

A's and C's first consideration would be to see that D did not recover but if B had an "exposed kong" of a dragon, and his wind or the wind of the round, they would still discard almost anything that did not suit them as another abnormal "chow" by B would make no difference since he already held a commanding lead and the best loser can also get into the next round. In the tournaments at the Society mentioned, I have very rarely seen a big loser pick up at the end because the other three were always "on him" thus putting him out of the running and reducing the field to four and would watch one another closely since a

"TALMA" FIRE.

SMOULDERING CARGO FLOODED.

ALL DANGER PAST.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

SINGAPORE, February 13. The hold of the s.s. "Talma" where the Japanese cargo is smouldering has now been flooded and the complete extinction of the fire is only a question of time. [Our Singapore correspondent cabled yesterday that fire had broken out in the No. 3 hold of the Aperc, steamer "Talma" from Hongkong to Calcutta. Interviewed by the China Mail, the Hongkong agents, Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., stated that they thought the fire could not be serious, as the vessel left here very lightly loaded and she has every modern appliance for dealing with fire.]

FRANCE PLEASED.

BRITISH PREMIER'S SINCERITY WELCOMED.

Reuter's General Service.

PARIS, February 13. Official circles are very appreciative of Mr. MacDonald's cordial tone towards France. They are convinced of his sincerity and determination to appreciate the French viewpoint, and they are confident that the practical task of working out the solution of the various questions will be carried out in a spirit of mutual understanding and conciliation based on the new cordial atmosphere.

BRITAIN'S NAVY.

SINGAPORE'S IMPORTANCE STRESSED.

LONDON, February 13. Mr. L. C. M. S. Amery, former First Lord of the Admiralty, in a Colonial Institute lecture on naval defence in the Pacific regretted that the Government had stopped the present work and commitments at Singapore, but was glad to hear the question was being carefully investigated and that a decision would not be taken without consultation with the Dominions affected.

He claimed that the battleship would always remain the kernel of the great complex comprising the fleets of the future and that the British fleet would ultimately be entirely oil-burning necessitating a chain of oil reserves, which was a great reason for developing Singapore.

JAPAN'S RIGHTS.

IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION FLAW.

WASHINGTON, February 13. Mr. Hughes, the Secretary of State, in a letter to the Chairman of the House of Representatives Immigration Committee, declares that sections of immigration restriction measure pending before the House would exclude Japanese from the country, which is inconsistent with treaty obligations to Japan. Japan has already drawn the attention of the State Department to the matter.

moderate "chow" by either of them would make all the difference. A is 20 points behind C. His chances would be just as good if not better and only B can take his discards (excepting "pungs" or "kongs") and no harm would eventuate from assisting B. On the other hand, C would have to shoulder the main responsibility of keeping D down. Should the positions be materially the same at the beginning of the last (or north) round, A would have to take risks even if with C. If neither of them chow, C would go up with B, so even if B won either a big or small hand, he would qualify. A would have to "chow" a fair hand—preferably when he is East wind—and would therefore discard prudence. Should either C be East wind, B's interests will be to prevent him from "chewing" and thus move the "banker" along. When D is East wind, he would play C with almost anything he wanted to get the last game over.

The foregoing are just a few examples of the adaptabilities of the "Sparrow" the possible variations greatly enhancing its attractiveness. Many other aspects will present themselves and suggestions for publication will be welcomed. Enthusiasts desiring information about the game, from a complicated dispute to seeking where one can buy a second-hand or the most elaborate set—should address their inquiries to Mah-Jongg, China Mail Office, and they will be dealt with as promptly as possible. Experts who will be accorded the use of this column.

INTERPORT BILLIARDS.

HONGKONG VICTORIOUS.

WIN AFTER A HARD STRUGGLE.

The ball room at the Lusitano Club was literally packed to the ceiling with eager spectators, among whom were noticed a number of ladies, when the final match in the Interport Billiards Tournament was decided last night.

At the conclusion of Tuesday's play, Hongkong were 59 behind, but on resuming play at 6 p.m. yesterday R. F. Luz (Hongkong) turned the tables in convincing style and when the rival captains met in the final game Hongkong was leading by 79 points. After a hard fought and exciting game, Osmund, although losing the game to Campos managed to obtain the necessary points which made Hongkong the victors by 62 points.

E. J. Leitao (Shanghai) v. R. F. Luz (Hongkong).

This game commenced at 6 p.m. and after a rather slow beginning Luz who was playing consistently from the start reached his 100 with his opponent at 88. Leitao, though hanging on to his opponent could not get going and Luz slowly forged ahead with breaks of 25 and 26. Then for a short period both players indulged in a little safety play until eventually Luz broke away with a beautiful break of 79, 60 of which he obtained off the red before ever utilising the white. This gave him a lead of 100 the scores then reading Hongkong 285, Shanghai 185. The Shanghai players found the balls running very unkindly for him and he frequently missed shots by a hair's breadth. Luz kept steadily pegging away and put on another break of 28, and when the scores read Hongkong 352 and Shanghai 243, Leitao rallied and on his next visit to the table made a fine all round break of 71 which reduced Hongkong's lead to about 40 points.

Nothing daunted Luz replied with a well compiled break of 48, which shortly afterwards he followed up with another of 64 thus making the game fairly safe. The scores then read Hongkong 463, Shanghai 320. Leitao experiencing bad loss in the matter of leavies was unable to reduce the lead to any extent and Luz ran at his points with his opponent at 562.

Luz played one of the most brilliant games witnessed in the tournament and through obtaining a lead of 79 put Hongkong well on the road to victory. The highest breaks were:—Hongkong 79, (highest break in the tournament) 64, 43, 28 and 26.

Shanghai 71, 25 and 20. Luz obtained an average of 6.30 and Leitao one 4.40. J. P. Campos (champion of the Lusitano Club, Shanghai) v. A. J. Osmund (champion of Hongkong).

This game commenced at 9.30 p.m. and Campos playing confidently soon took the lead and after 10 minutes' play his score stood at 84 with Osmund at 12. Campos taking every advantage of his leavies made a fine break of 51 and the scores when called read Shanghai 142, Hongkong 50. Osmund did not appear to be in very good form and could not get the balls to run to his satisfaction and for some time was unable to reduce the lead, until at last he put on a nice all round break of 43. Campos, however, replied with 6 well compiled breaks of 35 and 34 which made the scores read Shanghai 285, Hongkong 126. On his next visit to the table Osmund failed to score anything of note and Campos put on another break of 36. At this stage Osmund found things more to his liking and put on two breaks of 33 in quick succession. The scores then read Shanghai 304, Hongkong 228. After a period of safety play Osmund made two more useful breaks of 32 and 33 which reduced Shanghai's lead to 55. Both players did nothing of note for a while until Osmund eventually reduced the lead to 9 points when the scores read Shanghai 391, Hongkong 382. Campos then increased his lead with a break of 25 and great excitement prevailed when the scores read Shanghai 432, Hongkong 414 as Osmund only required 8 points to secure victory for Hongkong. Campos was equally keen on obtaining the victory for his side and consequently was doing his utmost to run out with a single break at one time it looked as if he would accomplish this and with the balls running well and in good position he broke down on an easy red loser after scoring 18. Osmund then scored 5 and he also broke down on an easy shot. Excitement was intense as Campos again commenced what looked like the winning break but he failed to score more than 11. Osmund then managed to score 4 which left him one to obtain for victory. Campos then made a last effort but was unsuccessful

ANOTHER SENSATION.

LATEST NAVAL OIL LEASES DEVELOPMENT.

(Reuter's American Service.)

WASHINGTON, February 13. The report that Coolidge is preparing to withdraw the nomination of Mr. Strawn as a special Government counsel in connection with the oilfields affair has provoked a fresh sensation.

It is declared that the nomination of Mr. Strawn's colleague Mr. Pomeroy will also possibly be withdrawn.

Opposition against both nominations has developed in the morning papers in which it is stated that the withdrawal of one of them is due to the fact that the nominee is connected with the directorate of two Standard Oil banks.

INDIA'S PROBLEMS.

CONTROL OF THE ARMY.

DELHI, February 14. The Assembly rejected a resolution in favour of summoning a representative convention to prepare a constitution and submit it to Parliament.

In the course of further debate Khan Patel urged Indian control of the army, but wanted the British officers and troops to stay. (Laughter.)

Colonel Gidney contended that it was nonsense to expect fully responsible government without a proper army.

The Council of State passed an unofficial bill already adopted by the Assembly regulating the entry into and residence in India of persons domiciled in other British possessions. The sponsors contended that the passage of this measure of retaliatory or reciprocity was necessary in view of the treatment of Indians in the colonies.

SERVICES RUGGER.

LONDON, February 13. The Inter-Services Rugger tournament between the Navy and the Air Force at Twickenham resulted in a win for the former by 16 to 9.

"TAI LEE" PIRACY.

DESERTERS REPORTED LOCATED.

INTERESTING RUMOUR.

A rumour, emanating from the Chinese crew of one of the smaller Wuchow steamers, is current to the effect that some of the men who worked on the "Tai Lee" before that vessel was pirated, are now employed on one of the shallow draft vessels plying between Wuchow, Nanning, Pak Sik and other up-country ports.

The man who is said to have seen these men is mentioned as not knowing the "Tai Lee" crew well enough to be able to distinguish which of them deserted the vessel when the pirates left at Tung Ma Ling. Nevertheless, he claims that nearly all the Chinese employed on the up-country ships are members of the guild which has headquarters in Canton, a branch or agency in Wuchow, and is practically the successor of the Hongkong-Wuchow guild which was declared an illegal society in Hongkong some time ago. He is also reported to have stated that the men he had suspected walked about on the up-country ships' decks in a very open manner and their conduct was not suspicious.

It is doubtful if anything will emanate from this rumour but, at any rate, it will be worth inquiring. However, a serious obstacle lies in the way. This is the disturbed political conditions in Kwangsi province. There is a different ruler in every district and their joint assistance will be necessary before any useful help will be forthcoming.

and on his next visit to the table Osmund scored off the red and thus made the game safe for Hongkong. Loud bursts of applause greeted this shot and when at last quietness reigned once more Osmund went out in earnest to catch his opponent and win the game. Although putting on some useful breaks he failed to beat Campos who ran to his points with Osmund at 483.

The highest breaks were:—Shanghai—51, 36, 35 (twice) 34 and 25. Hongkong—48, 33, (twice) 32, 30, 27, (3 times) 23 and 21. Campos obtained the highest average made throughout the tournament which was 8.13. Osmund obtained second place with one of 8.05.

The inter-club visitors left by this morning's boat for Canton where they will be entertained by Mr. E. de Silva, chairman of the Portuguese Club, who arrived here last night apparently to escort them on their trip.

COMMERCE.

GOLD FRANC ISSUE.

PEKING, February 13. Recognising their inability to succeed in their charges against Wang Keh-ming on the gold franc issue, members of Parliament are focussing their attention on an alleged secret understanding between the Minister of Finance and the manager of a former German bank at Shanghai respecting the Chinese bonds now held by Germans.

It is understood that the Government's reply will be a denial of any complicity on the part of Wang Keh-ming.—Courtesy Daily Bulletin.

THE CORONET.

"THUNDERING DAWN".

A woman's love, that leads her to Java in search of her lover, who has fled there to take upon himself the guilt of a crime that was not his, forms the theme of "Thundering Dawn". The love story of Jack Standish and Mary Rogers makes an appealing film, with Warren Kerrigan and Anna Q. Nilsson in the main roles.

Splendid photography of actual Java scenes adds to the charm of the production, and the scenes where Mary Rogers fights for her man, who has given way to the lure of drink and the allure of a notorious woman of the islands, are remarkable for some fine dramatic acting.

STOP PRESS.

London, February 14. The Labour organ the "Daily Herald" interprets Mr. Ammon's statement (see page 1) as meaning that the very costly and "dangerous" Singapore scheme is to be dropped.—Reuter.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING to confirm the resolutions passed at the previous EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Board Room of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Hongkong, on FRIDAY, the 15th day of February, 1924, at 5.15 p.m.

REEROY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING, Secretaries and Treasurers. Hongkong, 14th February, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE Stewards request the pleasure of the presence of the Ladies at the Races. Hongkong, February 14, 1924.

HONGKONG BOXING ASSOCIATION.

TOURNAMENT POSTPONED.

Owing to illness of

A. B. Chadwick

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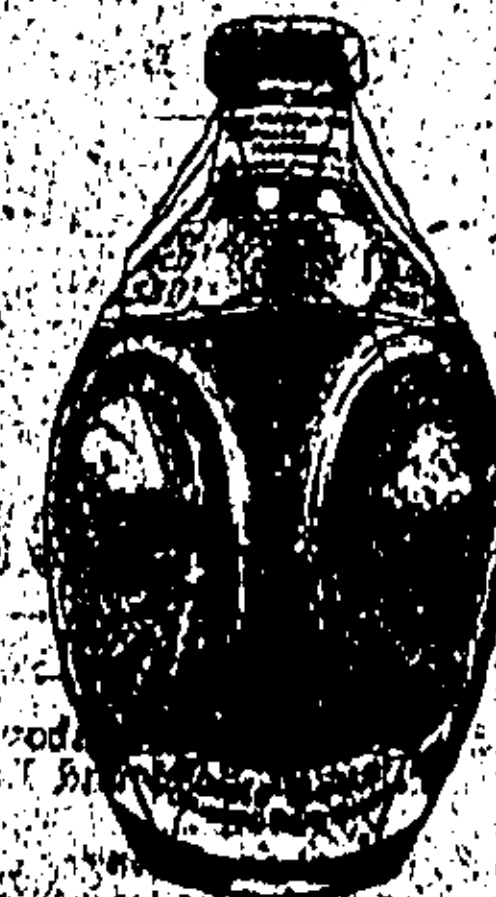
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Serbian peasants with gifts for the baby Crown Prince.



Photos by Central News. Blocks by Nam Sang.
Rear-Admiral Sir Hubert Brand, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., C.B., of
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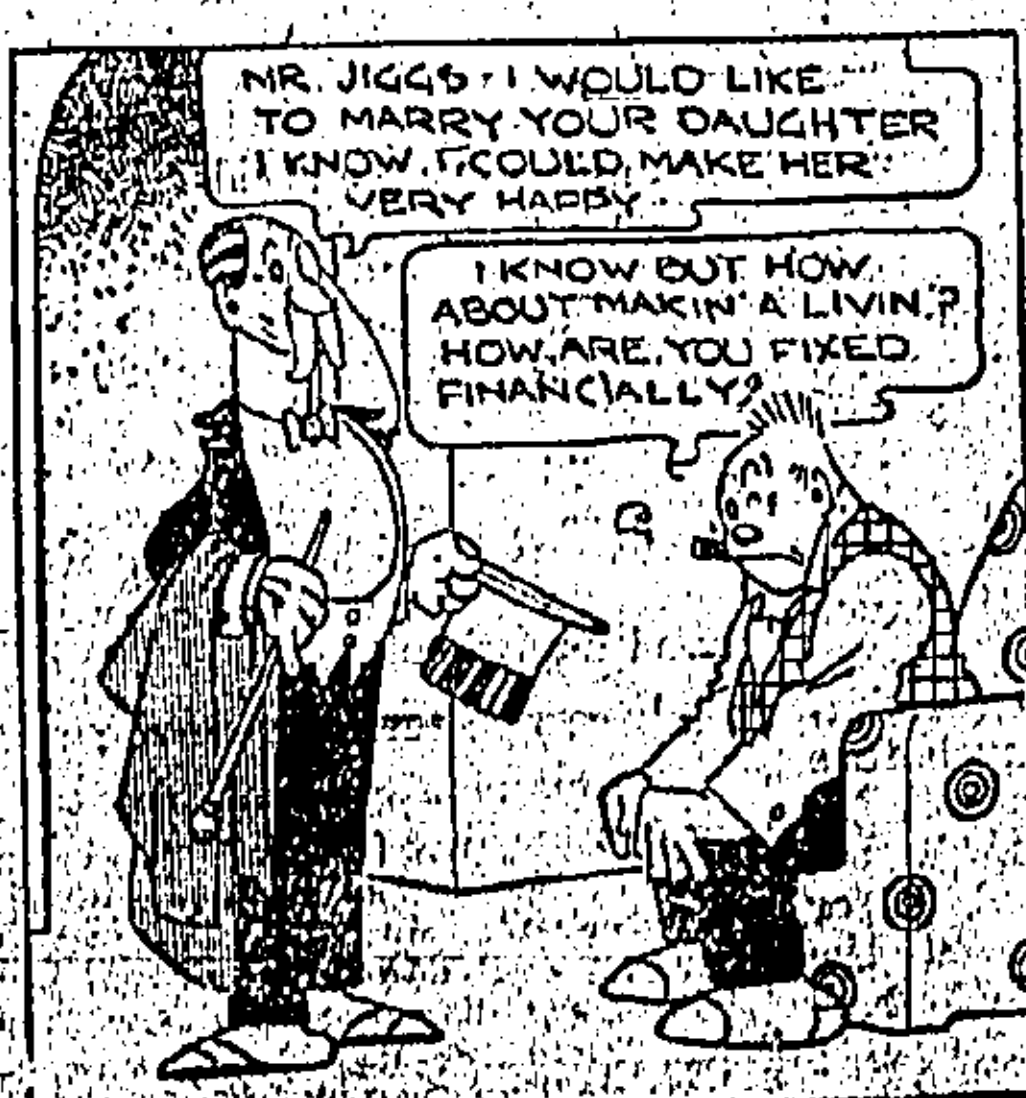
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The Hongkong Optical Co., Phone 1333,
100, Queen's Road Central.
- Printers**
"The China Mail," General Printers,
Publishers and Bookbinders,
100, Queen's Road Central.
- Photographers**
Moe Chung, Photographers,
100, Queen's Road Central.
- Photo Studio**
Fong Kwong Photo Studio,
100, Queen's Road Central.
- Rubber & Wood**
Tankah & Co., 30 Connaught Rd. W.,
Manufacturers of Rubber and Wood,
Singapore Wood, Tel. Cen. 4473.
- Ship Chandlers**
Chung Yick, 78 Connaught Rd. W.,
Ship Chandlers, 78 Connaught Rd. W.,
Ship Chandlers, 78 Connaught Rd. W.
- Shoemakers**
Jung Koo, Dealer in Sewing Machines
and Accessories, 100, Queen's Road Central.
- Tailors**
Hongkong Tailoring Co.,
100, Queen's Road Central.
- Tobacco, Cigarettes**
British American Tobacco Co.,
(China), Ltd., 100, Queen's Road Central.
- Glass Merchants**
A. Lee & Co., Glass Merchants,
100, Queen's Road Central.

THE BLUE FUNNEL LINE

REGULAR AND FAST FREIGHT AND PASSENGER SERVICES.

LONDON SERVICE

(Direct)
"DEMODOCUS" 25th Feb. London, Rotterdam and Antwerp
"HEPHER" 10th Mar. London, Rotterdam and Hamburg
"THERESIA" 17th Mar. London, Rotterdam and Antwerp
"HEXENOR" 24th Mar. London, Rotterdam and Hamburg

LIVERPOOL SERVICE

(Direct or via Continental Ports)
"TALITHYDIA" 20th Feb. Genoa, Milan, Liverpool & Glasgow
"ANTIOCHUS" 1st Mar. Marseilles, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"BELLEROPHON" 20th Mar. Genoa, Milan, Liverpool & Glasgow

PASSENGER SERVICE

"PROTEUS" 16th Feb. via Rome and Yokohama
"ACHILLES" 16th Mar. via Suez and Bombay
"KNIGHTS" 21st Mar. via Suez and Bombay

NEW YORK SERVICE

(via Suez or Panama)
"BRYATES" 16th Feb. via Suez and Boston
"KNIGHTS" 21st Mar. via Suez and Boston

PASSENGER SERVICE

"TALITHYDIA" 20th Feb. for Shanghai
"ANTIOCHUS" 1st Mar. for Singapore, Marseilles & London
"BELLEROPHON" 20th Mar. for Singapore, Marseilles & London
"HEXENOR" 24th Mar. for Singapore & London

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

AGENTS.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

INWARD MAILS.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15.
Shanghai 10.30 a.m. Cheong
Australia and Manila 11.30 a.m. Taiwan
Shanghai 12.30 p.m. Sochoo
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17.
Shanghai 10.30 a.m. Chitai
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18.
EUROPE via Negapatam (Letters papers London Jan. 17). Arabistan

OUTWARD MAILS.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15.
Bangkok 8.30 a.m. Banteng
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, K. & S.
Africa, Japan, Honolulu, Canada,
U.S.A. 10.30 a.m.
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San Francisco 8th Mar. Parcel 5 p.m.
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WEATHER REPORT.

February 14d. 11h. 30m.—Pressure has increased considerably from Chefoo to Shanghai, moderately from Formosa to Kwangtung and slightly over Indo-China and Luzon.

The anticyclone has weakened and moved eastward. The monsoon will moderate along the coast and over the China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day: 0.01 inch. Total since January 1st: 3.32 inches, against an average of 3.34 inches. Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon on February 15, 1934:
1.—Formosa Channel, N.E. winds, strong, moderating.
2.—South China Sea, N.E. winds, moderate; overcast, fog, drizzle.
3.—Hongkong coast, N.E. winds, moderate; overcast, fog, drizzle.
4.—South China Sea, N.E. winds, moderate; overcast, fog, drizzle.

ROYAL OBSERVATORY, HONGKONG.

DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

FEBRUARY 14, 1934.—A.M.

Station.	Barom.	Therm.	Humidity.	Wind.	Force.
At Sea Level.				Direction.	
Yldivostok	6 30.97	8	...	...	0
Vladivostok	30.93	...	...	...	...
Yokohama	30.92	...	...	W	2
Yokohama	30.90	...	...	W	1
Yokohama	30.08	...	...	...	...
Yokohama	30.12	...	...	...	3
Yokohama	30.10	...	...	...	...
Yokohama	30.12	...	...	...	...
Yokohama	30.10	...	...	...	...
Yokohama	30.04	...	...	...	1
Yokohama	30.06	...	...	...	...
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